Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (original) A method for color correction of a digital image, the method comprising:
   determining digital image color correction parameters for a digital image;
   determining image exception characteristics; and,
   applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics.

2. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein determining image exception characteristics comprises determining an image self-luminous region.

3. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein determining image exception characteristics comprises determining a color distribution property.

4. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 1 wherein determining image exception characteristics comprises determining an unlikely gamut.

5. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 1 wherein determining image exception characteristics comprises determining a small gamut.

6. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 1 wherein determining image exception characteristics comprises determining the presence of multiple illuminants.

7. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein determining image exception characteristics comprises determining the identity of at least one illuminant.

8. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises varying the attenuation of a correction.

9. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises omitting any correction.

10. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises using a plurality of corrections.

11. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises differential application of a correction.

12. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises selection and application of alternate correction methods.

13. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises spatially varying a correction.

14. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics comprises chromaticity variance of a correction.

15. (original) A method as described in claim 2 wherein detecting an image self-luminous region comprises determining the luminance of at least one element, determining the chromaticity of a region and determining the spatial position of a region.

16. (original) A method as described in claim 2 wherein detecting an image self-luminous region comprises determining the chromaticity of at least one element.

17. (original) A method as described in claim 2 wherein detecting an image self-luminous region comprises determining the spatial position of at least one element.

18. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein said applying the correction parameters comprises varying the attenuation of a correction in response to pixel position wherein the attenuation is changed linearly as the pixel position changes from a non-self-luminous region to a self-luminous region.

19. (original) A method as described in claim 1 wherein said applying the correction parameters comprises varying the attenuation of a correction in response to pixel position wherein the attenuation is changed non-linearly as the pixel position changes from a non-self-luminous region to a self-luminous region.

20. (original) A method as described in claim 2 wherein detecting a luminous region comprises detection of relatively high pixel luminance values wherein high luminance comprises a luminance value higher than other image elements in a given region.

21. (original) A method as described in claim 2 wherein detecting a luminous region comprises detection of relatively high pixel luminance values wherein high luminance comprises a luminance value higher than a threshold value.

22. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein detecting a self-luminous region comprises detecting the chromaticity of at least one element.

23. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein detecting a self-luminous region comprises detecting a position of at least one element relative to the top image boundary.

24. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein detecting a self-luminous region comprises detecting the position of at least one element relative to image boundaries.

25. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 1 wherein;

determining image exception characteristics comprises detecting a small color gamut distribution across the set of pixels; and,

modifying the correction parameters comprises attenuating the correction in response to detecting a small color gamut distribution.

26. (withdrawn) A method as described in claim 2 wherein;

calculating digital image correction parameters includes calculating a first correction and a second correction; and

using a plurality of corrections includes applying the first correction to self-luminous regions and applying the second correction to non-self-luminous regions.

27. (withdrawn) The method as described in claim 1 wherein

determining image exception characteristics comprises detecting a plurality of illuminants illuminating a common image region;

calculating digital image correction parameters includes calculating a plurality of corrections corresponding to the plurality of illuminants; and,

the plurality of corrections are used to create a single modified correction, which is applied to the common image region.

28. (original) A system for color correction of a digital image, the system comprising:

a parameter identifier for determining digital image color correction parameters for a digital image;

a characteristic identifier for determining image exception characteristics; and,

a correction processor for applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics.

29. (original) A set of executable instructions for color-balance correction of an image, said instructions comprising the acts of:

determining digital image color correction parameters for a digital image;

determining image exception characteristics; and,

applying the correction parameters to the digital image in response to the image exception characteristics.